

PRACTICAL RELIEF FOR NEEDY WOMEN OF "UNDERWORLD"

Associated Charities Cooperates With Social Morality Forces; Campaign Plan

Definite relief for women of Twelfth who are in actual need—if any such reported cases are proved bona fide—was pledged last night by E. E. Brooks, manager of the Associated Charities at a meeting of the committee of the Social Morality Campaign.

This body, which is the organized central body of the church forces called together a few weeks ago as a part of the crusade against commercialized vice—for two hours last night at the public library discussed plans for immediate action toward carrying on

the crusade through the churches. The most important action last night was the working out of a plan for caring for needy women of the underworld who are now under "suspended sentence" by Circuit Judge Ashford, following the closing of Brill, and who have neither means to go to the coast

nor any employment here. Rev. W. E. Pietach and Rev. C. H. McVey of the rehabilitation committee reported that several such women, drug fiends in most cases, have been held by the police. They also reported that definite plans for looking after these women were worked out a week or more ago but that a vigorous campaign thus

far has failed to produce the funds necessary to take care of them.

Pietsch told of taking the problem up with the board of health and learning that a building is now under construction at the insane asylum to house drug addicts for treatment. This building will not be completed for four months. Meanwhile such re-

The men at the meeting last night recognized that mere temporary assistance will not solve the problem.

They say that the women of the underworld who need relief in most cases are so addicted to the use of drugs that their recovery is doubtful; treatment must be long-continued; a house provided with a competent staff; and the rehabilitation committee must expect to receive many women and girls later on, for it is recognized that the closing of juvies does not entirely stamp out the social evil.

It was at this point that Manager Brooks of the Associated Charities rose and offered the services of his organization. He told the churchmen that in his opinion the number of women who are in real need of financial

assistance or of lodging in a rescue home is much exaggerated. He warned them against over-sentimentalism in dealing with vice and pointed out the need of trained investigation. Telling something of his experiences here, he said that the cases reported must be carefully sifted out.

Brooks was at once asked if the Associated Charities can assure the Social Morality Campaign Organization that the relief he promised would be extended without delay. He answered that he would begin today, but again warned the meeting that most of the claims for charities are likely to be in-

The discussion that followed showed that the churchmen have no intention of allowing any bona fide case of need to go without relief. They

said frankly that if the Associated Charities finds itself unable to cope with the situation, they will have to take some other action immediately. But the practical methods which Brooks outlined and the fact that his

organization is already handling many similar cases convinced the churchmen that his offer will probably solve their pressing problem of the immediate present.

Following his plan, Manser took this morning visited the city emergency hospital and talked with Dr. Ayer. He reported afterward that not a single case of bona fide need among ex-ville habitués was on record for

"So far as I know, there is no justification for the statement that the closing of Iwlee has resulted in any need, but I shall be ready to handle any such cases and I have a plan in

Bishop H. B. Ristarick, chairman of the meeting; Rev. J. P. Erdman, Rev. McVey and others, in announcements and addresses.

and discussion brought out plans for a widespread campaign of education through public meetings, sermons and church services and teaching in schools, mission homes and elsewhere. All of the work is to lead up to a

campaign to pass the "red-light statute" during the next legislature, and to improve moral conditions here permanently. The churchmen feel that the social and industrial forces of the community must be lined up

Each church is to work in its own channels.

Emphasis was placed on the need for working with the Chamber of Com-

merce. The Finance and Planning committee of the Social Morality body will consult with the special Chamber of Commerce committee so that there will be no interference with or duplication of work already planned by the

Oliver W. Bourke, Albert J. Frost and Burt D. Wing have been placed on trial in the United States district court at Chicago, charged with conspiracy to defraud the public.

court in Chicago, charged with conspiracy to bribe a federal judge three years ago.